

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 2-7, 9, 11-12, 14-34 and 36-44 are pending in this application.

**Allowable Subject Matter:**

Claims 14-34 and 36-44 have been indicated as being allowable. In the claims, the recitation of "magnetic gradient" has been editorially changed to -- gradient magnetic field-- (see, e.g., claims 33 and 42), and the recitation of "minute" from "minute RF detection coil" has been deleted.

Claims 2-7, 9 and 11-12 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this Amendment, claims 2, 9 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form and are thus allowable. Claims 3-7 are allowable at least by virtue of being dependent from allowable claim 2. Claim 12 is allowable at least by virtue of being dependent from allowable claim 11.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:**

Claims 1, 8, 10, 13 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Darrow et al (U.S. '610). Claims 1, 8, 10, 13 and 35 have been canceled and thus this rejection is deemed moot.

***HOSHINO et al.***  
***Application No. 09/871,712***  
***May 9, 2005***

**Conclusion:**

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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